

South Dakota CATTLE INVENTORY

News Release

January 28, 2000

SOUTH DAKOTA CATTLE INVENTORY UNCHANGED FROM A YEAR AGO

SIOUX FALLS, January 28, 2000 -- All cattle and calves in South Dakota as of January 1, 2000 totaled 3.9 million head, the same as the revised January 1, 1999 inventory, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service. This is unchanged from a year ago but 4 percent above the 1998 South Dakota cattle inventory.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 1.83 million head, were 3 percent above the 1.78 million on January 1, 1999. Other classes and their change from a year ago are:

- ! **Beef cows**, at 1.728 million head, up 3 percent from last year's 1.678 million head.
- ! **Milk cows**, at 102,000 head, unchanged from last year.
- ! **All heifers**, 500 pounds and over, at 860,000 head, up 6 percent from 810,000 head in January 1999.
- ! **Steers**, 500 pounds and over, at 710,000 head, down 5 percent from 750,000 head a year earlier.
- ! **Calves**, under 500 pounds, at 405,000 head, down 14 percent from 470,000 head a year earlier.

Calves born during 1999 totaled 1,780,000 head, 3 percent above 1998's total of 1,720,000.

Farms and ranches raising cattle in South Dakota during 1999 totaled 21,000, unchanged from 1998, while operations with beef cows totaled 17,000, down 500 from 1998.

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